

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCEM-02 AID-20 CEA-02

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 NEA-10 OPIC-12 SPC-03

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /173 W

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R 291527Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8336

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AEC GERMANTOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, SZ

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ADVANCE PURCHASE OF ENRICHED URANIUM BY SWISS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 3789

1. DURING OCT 29 COURTESY CALL BY ECONCOUNS, DR. CLAUDE ZANGGER OF SWISS OFFICE OF ENERGY SAID THAT SWISS NATIONAL BANK (SNB) HAS NOT RPT NOT YET GIVEN ITS APPROVAL FOR ADVANCE PURCHASE OF ENRICHED URANIUM ALONG LINES REFTEL. PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL APPARENTLY NOT REQUIRED. ADVANCE PURCHASE WAS IDEA OF FEDERAL COUNCILOR ROGER BONVIN, BUT SNB MUST CONCUR. ZANGGER DID NOT INDICATE WHEN FINAL DECISION COULD BE EXPECTED.

2. WITH REGARD TO THREE POWER REACTORS NOW IN PROJECT STAGE, WITH COMMENCEMENT OPERATIONS SCHEDULED FOR 1978-80, ZANGGER SAID GOESGEN JAS JUST ABOUT DECIDED REQUEST AEC CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM WHILE LIEBSTADT LEANING IN THAT DIRECTION. KAISERAUGST, WHICH WILL BE LAST OF THREE TO BEGIN OPERATIONS, STILL CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF EUROPEAN (I.E.

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EURODIF OR URENCO) OR SOVIET SOURCES OF SUPPLY, AS WELL AS AEC.

WHILE CONTACTS WITH SOVIETS HAVE BEEN UNPRODUCTIVE SO FAR,
KAISERAUGST WANTS TO KEEP ITS OPTIONS OPEN AND ZANGGER IMPLIED
THAT SOVIET SOURCING COULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE RULED OUT,
PARTICULARLY IN VIEW RECENT USSR SUPPLY CONTRACTS WITH GERMAN
UTILITIES. ZANGGER NOTED THAT KAISERAUGST WOULD HAVE TO MAKE
DECISION ON AEC SUPPLY BEFORE JUNE 30, 1974.
DAVIS

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